film starts. The searches conducted resulted in seizure of assets worth Rs. 199.06 lac.

(c) Necessary action as per Direct Tax Laws has been taken in the matter.

References received by RBI from BIFR

1704. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) references recieved by Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India till 31st March, 1996 from BIFR, constituted under the provision of SICA;

(b) number of cases where BIFR appointed India as Operating Agency till 23rd January, 1997; and

(c) whether IRBI under the name IIBI would continue to act as operating agency in the above cases for preparation of rehabilitation packages; if not, the alternative agency to carry out the same.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Industrial reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) has reported that it has received 1241 references from the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) till 31.03.1996.

(b) IRBI was appointed operating agency by the BIFR in 327 cases till 23.04.1997.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Loans to the Farmers of Punjab

1705. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total amount of loans granted to the farmers for agricultural purpose in the country particularly in the state of Punjab during the last three years, distrist-wise; and

(b) the details of the total amount of loans granted out of it to the persens belonging to the Secheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes and other weaker sections of the society in the state of Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the total amount of loans granted by commercial banks udner Agriculture Credit Plans (ACP) for agriculture and allied activities during the last three years was as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

1993-94	14121.79
1994-95	16884.74
1995-96	18835.99

The district-wise data for the state of Punjab, as reported by RBI, is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

District	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4
Amritsar	22.31	27.90	33.78
Bathinda	21.29	30.62	40.00
Fategarh Sahib	11.86	14.29	17.22
Faridkot	51.60	71.19	74.46
Ferozepur	30.11	28.92	45.72
Gurdaspur	14.14	15.76	18.43
Hoshiarpur	19.24	20.01	31.63
Jalandhar	39.72	41.51	62.50

1	2	3	4
Kapurthala	9.84	11.30	16.47
Ludhiana	47.32	58.63	80.47
Mansa	16.33	18.41	22.71
Patiala	45.63	64.33	84.82
Ropar	10.33	9.45	17.52
Sangrnr	80.95	79.27	88.26
Total	420.69	491.49	633.99

(The date pertaining to three newly created district vis. Moga, Muktsar and Nawashahr is not available separately.)

(b) The date reporting system of RBI does not generate the information regarding the disbursements to rersoris beinging to Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Backward Classes and other weaker sections of the society. However, outsranding advances under all sub-sectors of priority sector to SC/ST and weaker sections is given below:

(Rs. In crores)

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
SC/ST	129.89	175.94	134.40
Weaker Sections	648.20	747.61	801.38

Loans/Advances to Rural Sector in Punjab

1706. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loans/advances given to the rural areas in the State of Punjab during the year 1996-97, district-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the loans given to rural areas are very less in proportion to the deposits made by the rural sector in the banks; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and what concrete steps are being taken by Government to give more loans to the rural sector in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The District-wise deposits and gross credit of all scheduled commercial banks in rural areas of Punjab as on last Friday of March 1996 as furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are given in the enclosed statement. (*see* below)

RBI have advised the banks to achieve a Credit Deposit Ratio (CDR) of 60% in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches seperately on an all India basis. Banks have also been advised that while it is not necessary that this ratio should be achieved seperately branch-wise, District-wise or Region-wise, the banks should nevertheless ensure that wide disparity in the ratios between different States/Regions is avoided in order to minimise imbalances in credit deployment. However, the CDR in a particular State or Region depends upon the credit absorption capacity of the State/Region which in turn is determined and influenced by factors such as development of infrastructural facilities like irrigation, power, rail, road, transport, basic and technical education, entrepreneurship and availability of required inputs and marketing outlets for agricultural and industrial production.